

For-Hire Survey Meeting Minutes  
Portsmouth, NH  
May 17, 2005

- 1) Discussion of Summary Data:
  - a. Like data presented at meeting, particularly state of residence for dockside interviews and effort comparisons. Would like to see:
    - i. Information on participation (resident vs. non-resident);
    - ii. Comparisons to previous year on all summary data; and
    - iii. Effort estimates by state (# of estimated angler trips) for Atlantic coast.
- 2) Respondent Burden:
  - a. Web Survey might be utilized more if we allowed captains to create their own password. Weekly PINs are hard to keep track of.
  - b. Like logsheet.
  - c. Headboat captains in both Maine and New Hampshire are reporting through VTR program. Captains appreciative of effort to eliminate survey overlap and corresponding response burden.
- 3) Timely estimates:
  - a. We need education to lower number of refusals
    - i. For-hire captains have a captive audience on their boats – if we educate the captains about the importance of the survey, they can communicate this to the anglers on their boats and increase participation in the survey.
    - ii. Refusals are contagious on the boat, if one person refuses they will all refuse. Captains can influence this.